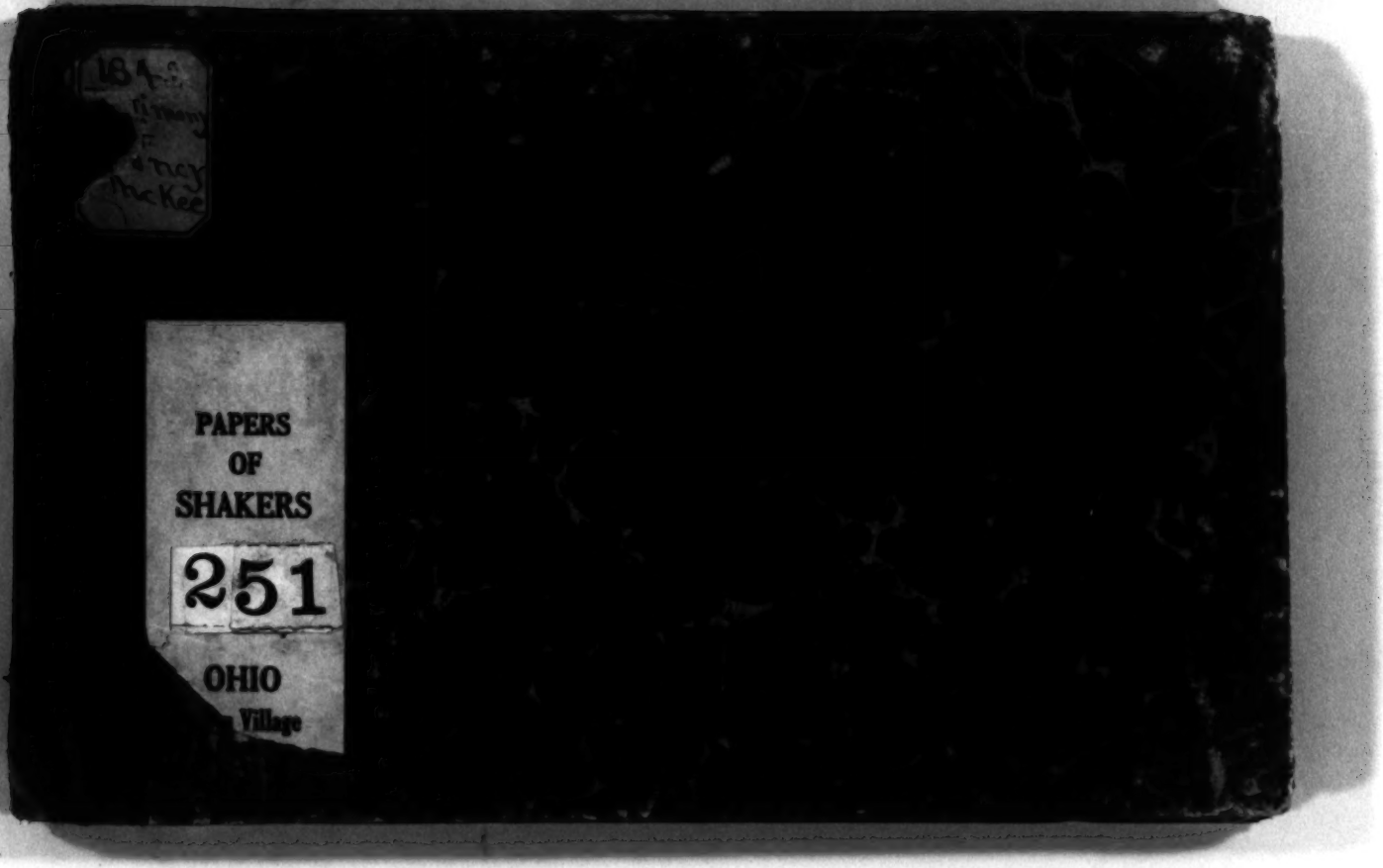
PAPERS
OF
SHAKERS
251
OHIO
Village

The Declaration & Testimony of Nancy McKee
a Visionist at White water

I was born Dec. 29th 1812. in Springfield Township, Hamilton County & State of Ohio. When I was 15 years of age my parents set out to be Believers, but remained among the people but about one year. At this time they had just began to come together as a body of believers at White water; My feelings being very much gathered to them, it was very erosping to to be seperated from them, & whenever I received from them any notice, it was very comforting to me. At the my

parents treated me kindly, I was dissatisfied with my situation for my souls desire was to be among believers; Often when I was not permitted to attend meeting on the Sabaths, I would go out & sit down in some place where I could hear them sing & labour, & I was resolved, some day to go & live with them; accordingly, at the age of 14 I made known my feelings to my parents, & they gave their consent for me to go, I set out having no one with me but a young brother of mine, to see if we could obtain a privilege among the people; I felt much discouraged on the way, fearing

I would not be received on account of my parents having turned away, but they kindly took me in, & gave me a opportunity to take up my cross & gain my relation to the work of God; & for this step I have never felt any regret, nor the least desire to leave my home & lovely gospel relations, but have cause of the greatest thankfulness, that I have strength given me, to turn my back on the world, with all its vain pleasures, for a habitation among Gods chosen people. And being one of these, who have been called, & through the tender mercy & loving kindness of our heavenly

Parents, have received the spirit of inspiration, by which I have been made an instrument to convey messages, from them to my beloved fellow travelers on earth, containing their precious & divine will, and feeling my accountability for the improvement of every talent I receive, in order to keep the gospel for myself, & for the good of others, I feel it my duty, & esteem it as a great privilege, to bear testimony to the truth of what is here stated, and for all these beautiful and heavenly gifts, of which I have been made partaker, I feel to bow low, and with a grateful heart, humbly return thanks to

my heavenly Parents; and likewise, to declare my resolution and determination, to persevere in this purifying work to the end of my days. What is here written, is the sincere feelings of my soul, and here do I place my hand and Seal, This 22 day of October, — — — —
in the year of our Lord 1841. Nancy McKee

The Declaration & Testimony of Lavina Jackson
a Visionist at White water

I was born the 6th day of June 1813. When I was at the age of nine years, my father died; My mother sensibly feeling her bereavement, and the care and charge, which must consiquently devolve on her, being left with three children, saw the necesity of devising some way and means for their protection and support, and having previously visited Believers, and formed some acquaintance with them, and believing them to be a kind and humane people, she determined on taking her children to them, which she accordingly did.

and placed them under their care, and set out herself to
to gain her union to the people; she remained with us till I
was eighteen years of age, at which time she left us, and has
never since returned. Altho she has sent pressing invitations
to us in case we were dissatisfied, to come and live with her,
and presented many allurements to entice us, yet I have nev
er for one moment, felt inclined to leave the way of God, and
his people, to follow her, but I have ever felt truly thankful, that
she was influenced to deliver us up, when we could learn the
way of righteousness; and I also feel very thankful, for the un-
wearied labour and pains, of my kind Elders and friends,

in the gospel, who have carefully protected me, and taught me how to shun the way of sin, and to travel out of the nature of evil. This great debt I shall never be able to repay, short of walking in strict and punctual obedience to the precepts of the gospel, which I intend to do to the end of my days.

And being one of the number, who have been chosen, appointed and inspired by our heavenly Parents, and have received from them and their Ministering spirits, such great and heavenly blessings, that it has caused me to cry out in humiliation of soul, how is it possible that an unworthy worm like me should be so noticed, and I feel unable to express

the thankfulness of my heart, and as I have by means of this power, been prepared to receive from them, weighty and solemn Messages, and been made able in confidence, and in the fear of God, to deliver the same to their people on earth, for their help and advancement in the increasing work of the day, and knowing these things to be solemn realities, established in my soul by the strongest evidence, and in the final issue, will be interesting to every human being, who ever did, or may dwell on the earth; I feel it my duty and privilege, to bear testimony to what is here written, as the sincere feelings of my soul; and also to

declare my resolution and determination, to pursue this heavenly journey, by yielding true and perfect obedience to the requirements of the gospel through my visible and appointed Lead, whom I love and respect, as my Parents on earth, and who will be able to protect, and safely lead me through all the dangers of life, and by so doing I shall manifest my grateful thanks, which I now feel unable to express; this will I do, and to this write I place my hand and Seal, this 24th day of October.

in the Year of our Lord 1841 Lavina Jackson

Note, Lavina Jackson was born in Salem Township, Livingston County State of Kentucky

The Declaration & Testimony of Emeline Jackson
A Visionist at White Water

I was born January 7th 1816. in Salem Township, Livingston County State of Kentucky; when I was six years of age my father died, which was the cause of some tribulation in our family, Although my Parents were both professors of religion, yet it did not appear that they were in posession of any thing that would satisfy their souls; My Mother was greatly awakened by the sudden and unexpected death of my father, which caused her to seek some way of deliverance from the bondage of sin; She had some

acquaintance with Believers previous to my Father's death, which induced her to go and see them. Here she received a measure of faith, set out, and confessed her sins, and united herself to the society, she gave up her three children to the care and direction of believers; I was then eight years of age; she seemed for a season to be contented and thankful for her privilege, but at length she became dissatisfied with the cross, and unwilling to obey her faith, and accordingly left the society, when I was in my sixteenth year. I then resolved in my own mind, never to follow her, but

to obey my faith, and stand for myself; this I have been able to do, by walking in obedience to my Visible Lead. I have been taught the way of God, and directed in my duty; yea, I have found kind friends in the gospel, that are able to help me out of my loss, and plant in my soul a feeling of love and respect for the precious way of God, which shall increase with my days on earth. Yea, I feel truly thankful to those who have borne with me through childhood and youth, and have set an example of godliness & virtue, to them I feel greatly indebted, and by my faithfulness and obedience, to support the precious gifts of kind Heaven,

which is offered to me as an individual, will I labour to recompence my beloved Elders and friends in the gospel, for all their labours with me

And as I have been one of the instruments, chosen and endowed with a spirit of inspiration, and received many precious and heavenly gifts from holy Mother and her Ministering spirits, to convey to mortals on earth, I feel it my duty and privilege, to bear testimony to the truth of what I have seen and felt; I have been blessed with a gift of inspiration, so that I soon able to read spiritual communications, and also to write for Invisible readers;

My spirit has often been taken from earthly things, and conveyed to the world of spirits, where I could converse with the invisible heavenly Hosts; and I have felt the power of God, both visible and invisible to mortal eyes; Yea, my soul has been filled with the givings of God, untill I felt like a stranger on earth; And for all this great notice of kind Heaven to me, I feel expanding thankful- And as I have been blessed, so will I continue to walk in the line of a blessing, by yielding obedience to the requirements of the gospel, & obeying my faith, by labouring to honour the gospel to the end of my days.

What I have here written is the sincere feelings

of my soul, and here do I place my hand and seal
this 22 day of October. in the Year of our Lord 1841.

Emeline Jackson

The Declaration & Testimony of Louisianna Stroud,
a Dissenist at White Water.

I was born January 5th, 1818. in Jerman Township, Vigo County State of Indiana — My Mother died when I was in my fifth year, and in my sixth, my Father gave me up to believers, with two of my brothers, & two sisters, he afterwards came himself.
The remainder of the family, a brother & sister were afterwards gathered — My Father hung on for about seven years, and then droped off as a withered branch, having never been in a situation to receive much sap and nourishment from the true vine, & so it proved with all (excepting one Sister,

who was called away by death) until I was left alone, having not one of my natural kindred remaining with me, but all this did not prove to discourage me, nor to cause my heart to wander after them, nor any of the supposed enjoyments for which they had turned their back on the way & work of God. Nay not for one moment did my soul desire the vain pleasure they were pursueing. I love the way of God, & I love my precious gospel relations, they have laboured for the good of my soul, they have taught me the way of salvation, by precept & example, and with them I will spend my days, for they possess the true riches of Heaven.

So, by rendering strict obedience to the requirements of the gospel, as I have been, & still am taught by my visible Lead, I shall remain under the protection of God, & enjoy his blessing, & be safely gaurded through all the danderous scenes of life.

And I do sincerely & truly feel thankful, to my kind Elders, & to my loving brethren & sisters, for their labours of love & charity for me, from my childhood to the present day.

And as I am one of the number, chosen by our heavenly Parents, & from them has been ministered to me the spirit of inspiration, whereby I have been enabled to receive the precious gifts & blessings of God, which in their tender mercy & compassion

they have bestowed upon me, & as I have been made an instrument to convey messages from them, to holy Mother's children on earth, containing the righteous will of our Parents in Heaven concerning them. Though such blessings do indeed seem to much for such a worm as me. ..... But as it has been holy Mothers will, to thus to notice me, I will ..... prove my thankfulness by labouring to keep down low in the Vally of humiliation.

And knowing these things to be no evil device, but sacred truths, from my own experience, I feel it a duty resting upon

me, to bear testimony to the same; & likewise to declare my resolution & determination, to continue in this cross-bearing, self-denying work, while I remain on the earth.

These are the sincere feelings of my heart, & what I have truly experienced.

And to this do I place my hand & Seal

This 25th day of October in the year of our Lord. 1841.

Louisianna Stroud

The Declaration & Testimony of Hortincy Brown
a Visionist at White Water.

I was born in Stonelick Township, Clermont County & State of Ohio. May 20th 1819. My Mother took me among believers when I was four years of age, when I was about six, she left the people, when I remained until I was twelve, when she came, & in a very wicked spirit took me away against every feeling of my soul, and it was a heart rending scene to my aged grand-mother, (on my Mothers side) with whom I had lived from the time I was six years old, & had lost

all knowledge of my natural Mother, who was like a stranger to me, my cries & lamentations were distinctly heard a quarter of a mile, by the family where I had lived, from the place where I had been taken to be delivered up to her.

As she took me, & thrust me into the waggon, I felt her trimble with rage & malice. While I was with her, she treated me very harsh & unnatural, this, together with the dissatisfaction I felt on account of being seperated from believers, rendered my life very unhappy. I often entreated my Mother to return to believers, but she would not be prevailed on to consent

until misfortune compelled her to seek relief; she then asked me what she should do; I readily answered if you will return to believers, then you will find friends; she then gave her consent, & accordingly took me with 4 other children to W.W. I was then about fourteen years of age; & I have ever since been truly thankful for my home.

And as I am one of the number, who have been called, and through the tender mercy & loving kindness of our heavenly Parents, have been endowed with the spirit of inspiration, by which means, my spirit has often been conveyed

away from all sense of mortal things, to see and converse with our heavenly Parents, & other blessed spirits, invisible to the mortal eye, & to receive from them, many messages, to communicate to to those who dwell on the earth, inhabiting mortal bodies;

And knowing these things to be facts, established beyond the shadow of a doubt, & considering them to be such great & heavenly blessings. — I feel it a duty & privilege, to testify conscientiously & solemnly ~~testify~~, to the truth of what is here written, & likewise, to declare my resolution & determination, to continue to the end of my days, in this great & wonderful work of God,

by doing the will of my heavenly Parents, & walking in simple obedience to my visible & appointed Head on earth. what is here written, is the sincere feelings of my soul, and here do I place my hand & seal.

This 22 day of October in the year of our Lord 1841.

Hortency Brown

The Declaration & Testimony of Phebe Agnew
a Visionist at White Water

I was born June 22. 1819. in Morgan Township, Butler County & State of Ohio. I lived with my Parents untill I was about twelve years of age, when my Mother died. She had received a measure of faith, and had a number of relations living with believers, which induced her on her dying bed to desire me to go & live with them, but on account of a prejudice, I received through the ministration of those of my natural relation who were opposed, I remained with them till

I was about 14, when I was brought to see, there was nothing but tribulation, sorrow & disapointment, awaited me in my situation in the world; I then resolved to obey the council of my departed Mother, & seek a home & friends, among believers, this resolution I put in practice, for which I have ever been thankful.

And being one of those, whom our heavenly Parents have chosen & called as a Visionist, & have been blessed with a spirit of inspiration, to make known their divine will to mortals, and as they, in their tender mercy have made me partaker

& the beautiful & heavenly gifts of God,
and by the spirit of inspiration have enabled me to read spiritual communications, & to receive, & deliver verbal messages, from our heavenly Parents & their ministering spirits, to their children on earth; And as I have frequently in a trance, been taken from all sense of the things of time, & my spirit conveyed away, to see & converse with spiritual & heavenly Beings in a disembodied state, I feel it my indispensable duty, & privilege, to bear testimony that these things are no fiction, but undoubted reality confirmed & established by the strongest evidences.
And for these heavenly blessings, my soul is filled with sensations

of gratitude & thankfulness. And I likewise feel it a precious privilege, conscientiously & solemnly, to declare my resolution & determination, to persevere in this great and wonderful work, by humbly doing the will of my Parents in Heaven, & walking in true subjection to my visible, & appointed Lead on earth to the end of my days.

What is here written is the sincere feelings of my soul; and here do I place my hand & Seal.

This 22 day of October. In the year of our Lord. 1841.

Phebe Agnew.

The following is a relation of Mother's Sons visit & farewell to her Children at White Water; and likewise her departure to the mansions of rest, prepared for her by her heavenly Father, the righteous and just reward, of her faithful & unwearied labours & sufferings, to open the way, & lay a sure & permanent foundation, whereon all the poor lost sons & daughters of Adam may build, with an assurance of salvation from all sin, if they will receive & keep her precious counsel, & follow her holy example.

On the 3 day of Feb. Mother promised through one of her inspired

instrument, that she would visit her children in this place on the
17th of the same month, & she came, & made herself known agreable
to her promis, which was on Thursday. She same evening she gave
a letter to one of the Visionists to be read on Friday. This, when
read, was found to be her last communication by way of letter, to
her children in general at White Water.

Mother attended meeting on Saturday evening, & gave unto her
children much heavenly counsel & instruction; & Sabath afternoon
at 3 oClock, when the brethren & sisters were generally present,
according to her previous appointment, she again attended

our meeting, accompanied by many heavenly Spirits.

This, Mother said was the last time she would meet with us, to be seen by mortals. In this meeting she gave us preping counsel to keep the fear of God.

Elder Archibald prepared kneeling, in thankfulness to Mother, for her kind protection, & many blessings which we had received from her, this her obedient children considered a privilege, & gladly united in it.

At the close of the meeting, according to Elder Archibald's desire. we kneeled three times, to expess our thanks to our heavenly Mother, for her

notice, kindness & forbearance. Then came word unto us from Mother, to again bow three times, & she would bow with us, & this should be our farewell. This privilege her faithful children felt very precious.

The same day, Eldress Eunice received a letter from Mother, which was read on Monday, agreeable to her direction. After the inspired ~~unspired~~ instrument had finished reading the letter, she said, Mother Mary & two Angels are here. Eldress Eunice felt an impression to kneel down & thank Mother Ann, for her kind notice & blessings, the Visionist & writer, kneeled in union

with her, while on their knees, Mother Mary placed a bull of love in the hand of each, from Mother Ann.

The Visionist again said, Mother wants me to come to her with Mother Mary with Elders Eunices union, she gave her liberty, and she was soon lost to the things of time, her spirit accompanied Mother Mary home when she saw Mother Ann. Mother took her into a chariot, & they went very swift, & it appeared to her a great distance, she took her to a house that looked clear like unto glass, where she saw a great company of Angels, these Mother told her were the holy Angels of the Lord, whom he had prepare

to send to the earth with his judgments & power.

She then returned with her to the place from which they started. After their return, Mother asked her if she would be faithful, she promised she would; she then told her this was the last time she would ever take her with her to any place in the spiritual world while she remained on earth, but if she would be faithful, when she had done with time, she should come to her

The Visionist saw a great number of Chariots, & Mother told her that there were a hundred good Spirits in company with her,

Mother then took leave of Father Joseph's family with three bows. She then entered the foremost Chariot, led by four bright Angels with trumpets; at the first sound of the trumpets, all moved, in perfect order & harmony, & they were out of sight in a moment.

The Viewist said, she had never before heard such beautiful sounds, altho she had many times a privilege of visiting, & hearing music in the spiritual world.

She was informed by Mother, that the four Angels which she saw go before the Chariot sounding their trumpets, were the

same holy, guardian Spirits, who were with her, & protected her, while crossing the ocean from England to America.

The parting scene with Mother Ann & Father Joseph's family, took place at about half past four in the afternoon.

Feb. 21. 1842.

The two succeeding Letters, are those, received from Holy Mother, while She was making her farewell visit with her children at W Water

A Letter from Mother Ann, to her Sons & Daughters.

Now my children, bow your spirits low, & receive my counsel, love, strength & protection, for I am your Mother, yea, & I have waded through deep tribulation to nourish & strengthen you; This, I have done cheerfully, & I have not spared any pains to lead & direct you aright.

And O! now, my Sons & Daughters, will you be faithful, you who have been marked with the name of the Lord Jehovah, and your names sealed in the book of Life

I say again, will you be faithful & endure to the end, so that I, your tender Mother, can meet you when you have done with

time & come home to my Kingdom, so that I can meet you with joy & delight, and clothe you with a robe that is new, & a crown that is bright.

But O remember my children on the other hand, if you are not true & faithful, the judgments of God will follow you, & no mercy to you can I extend, for God in his wisdom will treat you according as you treat his gospel.

O now, my children, I warn you to walk in the holy fear of God, for souls who love their birthright & joining to the tree of life, & who stray away from my fold, & from under the

protection of kind Heaven, their case is awful who turn their back on so much light.

Now, my Sons & Daughters, one & all, be watchful & prayerful, that you may not be found straying from the true path of protection; you have had counsel & warning sufficient, to lead & direct you safely to my Kingdom, if according to your faith, you live in strict obedience to my anointed, those, whom I love & bless with my spirit. I have clothed them, & given them a gift to lead & direct my people aright.

Now, my children, I shall write no more to you, for my

Father has sent me to finish my work; and are you thankful that I have come, to bless & comfort you. if you are, be faithful & obedient, & keep my council, for remember, you will have to stand for yourselves, for in the hour of tribulation & trial, I will not be so near as I have been, to give you council & directions, but you shall never be left without ministering Spirits to surround you.

Now, Elder Archibald & Eldress Eunice, I want to thank and bless you. You have been faithful & obedient to do my will, & to obey the mind of the spirit, as far as it has been

made known to you, I am satisfied with your labours, yea, this I can truly say, & I am thankful for it.

My strength & protection, shall ever rest with, and my holy Angels shall be with you, through scenes of tribulation & trial, I will now draw to a close.

From Mother Ann, to her Sons & Daughters at White Water.

Read Feb. 18th 1842.

A Letter from Mother Ann to her well beloved Daughter Elder Ennice

Now with pleasure & delight I write unto you, knowing that you have alway been thankful for my many blessings, & kept them, & treasured them up for a time of need.

O! now, my daughter, be cheerful while you are passing through tribulation, for I your tender Mother will never forsake you.

The time will come, when it will seem dreary & desolation on earth, for it must be redeemed from sin, And before that great work can be accomplished, my children will have to pass through great tribulation.

Now, my daughter, you may always feel free, in asking me, or any other one of the heavenly Hosts, for counsel, direction or protection, for the way of communication shall never be shut up, but my faithful children shall know my mind & the I never shall again be with them on earth, as I have been.

Now, my Daughter, you must keep one, or more inspired instruments, that you can place confidence in, to send, & find out what is the mind of the holy Spirit, these who will not be ensnared by the beguiling spirit, & led astray from the true order of protection; for the evil one as you have been told heretofore,

will try harder than he has ever done, to throw in darkness & discouragements, therefore an instrument must be faithful & true, one who can discern, & find out the mind of the heavenly Hosts, for the old deceiver has tried many ways to deceive my chosen Instruments, some he has discouraged & disheartened this you know my daughter, but those who have kept the counsel of their Elders have never failed.

Now, I shall begin to draw to a close, this my farewell letter to you, a few more years will roll away, then O my daughter you will come home to me, & the richest jewels of Heaven

shall be Thine, for you have been a faithful child of mine.
I know your feelings & mine, that you desired some more notice
from your tender Mother, and I have wrote a few lines which
is my mind.

Now, I will seal on the bottom of this letter, a seal of my
Love & Blessing that forever shall be with you. Kindly Farewell

To Eldress Eunice. read Feb 21st 1842.

We will here insert that Caroline Jackson & Phebe Agnew have been the
principal Instruments who have read spiritual communications at W. Water

SHAKER COLLECTION